HABS No. MASS-673

Mayhew School
Poplar and Chambers Streets
Boston
Suffolk County
Massachusetts

HABS MASS 13-BOST

# PHOTOGRAPHS WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennyslvania

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY HABS No. MASS-673

#### MAYHEW SCHOOL

MASS 13-BOST

Address:

Poplar and Chambers Streets, Boston,

Suffolk County, Massachusetts; demolished 1960

Final Owner:

Boston Redevelopment Authority: neighborhood office at 25 Blossom Street, Boston, Massachusetts

Brief Statement of Significance:

This school, is probably the largest and most elaborately detailed building among those to be demolished for the Boston West End redevelopment.

## PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

### A. Physical History

- 1. Original and subsequent owners: Boston School System
- 2. Date of erection: 1897 (date incised in frieze of portico).
- 3. Architect: The building has been attributed to Stanford White but no documentation has been found for this.
- B. Likely sources not yet investigated: Boston School Records. Stanford White: original papers.

#### PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

- A. General Statement
  - 1. Architectural character: This building, designed by Stanford White, has many interesting architectural details.
  - 2. Condition of fabric: To be demolished.
- B. Technical Description of Exterior
  - 1. Overall dimensions: The building is 3-1/2 stories tall with an irregular L-shape. It faces north on Poplar Street and east on Chambers Street.
- C. Technical Description of Interior: Stairway: The main stairway is in the southeast corner of the building in the main

entrance hallway. The stairway has a curved T-shape. is doubled, on either hand, to a landing midway between the first and second floors, and runs in a single flight to the 2nd floor. The railing is made of interwoven metal bands, with a round hand rail.

> Prepared by Abbott L. Cummings, Assistant Director Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities Boston, Massachusetts - January 1960